House File 521 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE BY BAUDLER Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____ Vote: Ayes ____ Nays ____ Nays ____ A BILL FOR 1 An Act relating to enhanced penalties for assaults involving certain occupations. 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA: 4 TLSB 2227YH 83 5 jm/nh/5PAG LIN Section 1. Section 708.3A, Code 2009, is amended by adding 2 the following new subsection: 3 <u>NEW SUBSECTION</u>. 3A. A person who commits an assault, as 4 defined in section 708.1, against a peace officer, jailer, 5 correctional staff, member or employee of the board of parole, 6 health care provider, employee of the department of human 7 services, employee of the department of revenue, or fire 8 fighter, whether paid or volunteer, with the knowledge that 9 the person against whom the assault is committed is a peace 1 10 officer, jailer, correctional staff, member or employee of the 1 11 board of parole, health care provider, employee of the 1 12 department of human services, employee of the department of 1 13 revenue, or fire fighter, by expelling saliva upon the peace 1 14 officer, jailer, correctional staff, member or employee of the 1 15 board of parole, health care provider, employee of the 1 16 department of human services, employee of the department of 1 17 revenue, or fire fighter, is guilty of an aggravated 1 18 misdemeanor. Sec. 2. Section 708.3B, Code 2009, is amended to read as 1 19 1 20 follows: 1 21 708.3B INMATE ASSAULTS == BODILY FLUIDS OR SECRETIONS. 1 22 <u>1.</u> A person who, while confined in a jail or in an 1 23 institution or facility under the control of the department of 1 24 corrections, commits any of the following acts commits a class 25 "D" felony: 1 26 1. a. An assault, as defined under section 708.1, upon an 1 27 employee of the jail or institution or facility under the 28 control of the department of corrections, which results in the 29 employee's contact with blood, seminal fluid, urine, or feces. 2. b. An act which is intended to cause pain or injury or 1 31 be insulting or offensive and which results in blood, seminal 1 32 fluid, urine, or feces being cast or expelled upon an employee 1 33 of the jail or institution or facility under the control of 1 34 the department of corrections. 2. A person who commits an assault, as defined in section 708.1, upon a peace officer, member or employee of the board 2 of parole, health care provider, employee of the department of 3 human services, employee of the department of revenue, or fire 4 fighter, whether paid or volunteer, with the knowledge that 5 the person upon whom the assault is committed is a peace <u>6 officer, member or employee of the board of parole, health</u> 7 care provider, employee of the department of human services, 8 employee of the department of revenue, or fire fighter, which 9 results in contact with blood, seminal fluid, urine, or feces, 10 by the peace officer, member or employee of the board of 11 parole, health care provider, employee of the department of 12 human services, employee of the department of revenue, or fire 13 fighter, commits a class "D" felony. 3. A person who commits an act which is intended to cause 2 15 pain or injury or be insulting or offensive and which results 2 16 in blood, seminal fluid, urine, or feces being cast or 17 expelled upon a peace officer, member or employee of the board 2 18 of parole, health care provider, employee of the department of

2 19 human services, employee of the department of revenue, or fire 2 20 fighter, whether paid or volunteer, with the knowledge that

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the person upon whom the assault is committed is a peace
22 officer, member or employee of the board of parole, health
23 care provider, employee of the department of human services,
24 employee of the department of revenue, or fire fighter,
25 commits a class "D" felony.
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EXPLANATION

This bill relates to enhanced penalties for assaults 2 28 involving certain occupations.

The bill enhances the penalty for a person who assaults a 30 peace officer, jailer, correctional staff, member or employee 31 of the board of parole, health care provider, employee of the 2 32 department of human services, employee of the department of 33 revenue, or fire fighter, whether paid or volunteer, by 34 expelling saliva upon a person knowingly employed in such an 35 occupation. A person who violates this provision commits an 1 aggravated misdemeanor. Currently, a person who expels saliva 2 upon a person commits a serious misdemeanor assault in 3 violation of Code section 708.3A(4).

The bill also enhances criminal penalties for persons who 5 assault members of certain occupations using blood, seminal 6 fluid, urine, or feces. Currently, criminal penalties are 7 enhanced in Code section 708.3B for inmates who commit an 8 assault with such bodily fluids against a person who is 9 employed at a jail or correctional facility.

Under the bill, a person commits a class "D" felony if a 3 11 person assaults a known peace officer, member or employee of 3 12 the board of parole, health care provider, employee of the 3 13 department of human services, employee of the department of 3 14 revenue, or fire fighter, whether paid or volunteer, which 3 15 results in contact with blood, seminal fluid, urine, or feces.

3 16 Under the bill, a person commits a class "D" felony if a 3 17 person commits an act which is intended to cause pain or 3 18 injury or be insulting or offensive and which results in 19 blood, seminal fluid, urine, or feces being cast or expelled 20 upon a known peace officer, member or employee of the board of 3 21 parole, health care provider, employee of the department of 22 human services, employee of the department of revenue, or fire 23 fighter, whether paid or volunteer.

Current penalties for assault are contained in Code section

3 25 708.2.

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